

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 16th Mile Stone.

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 16 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 17)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER north side of Ridge Road, Goat Hill area

CITY, TOWN

Rising Sun

☒

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 1 / PA: 5

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Cecil / PA: Chester

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS		<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE		<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** N/A  
(see surrounding property ownership list)COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Cecil County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

CE-1023 entered 3/80

☐ FEDERAL☒

STATE

☐ COUNTY☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 16(17) marks Mason and Dixon's 16th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is an original milestone of 1766, at an original site preliminarily surveyed in 1765.

The area here is increasingly hilly and wooded, sparsely settled, predominantly rural. The site is located within Election District VI of Cecil County, West Nottingham Township of Chester County; about 2 miles northwest of the town of Rising Sun, Maryland, at the south edge of an area known as Goat Hill; at a point about 1200' north of Ridge Road and about 1500' west-northwest of the Waters' house; in a cleared strip at the south edge of a deciduous woods and hedgerow. Unmarked, it cannot be seen from any road nor easily until fairly closeby when vegetation is dormant.

The monument, originally set to stand about 3' above ground, was reset to stand about 1½' high in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and remains about that high. It is firmly in place, in good condition though considerably chipped along all edges and top corners. As with all original Mason and Dixon milestones: No. 16(17) is an embellished, squared oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England. It still measures about 12" square; the capital P on the north (Pennsylvania) side is nicked, but clear, as is the capital M on the south (Maryland) side; most fluting and margins remain; and the top planes are discernible but weathered. The milestone is relatively protected, in this out-of-the-way site.

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying	

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
~~SURVEYORS~~

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are 24 original crownstones and 111 milestones of 1766-67 still standing along Mason and Dixon's West Line, set at mile intervals through the 132nd mile, and including 12 added in 1902 beyond that point (3 crownstones, 9 milestones) at irregular intervals. Milestone No. 16(17) is primarily significant as one of this original series, which represents a boundary of national and state importance, not only for its symbolism at the time of the Civil War, but also for its innovative survey methods leading to the settlement of longstanding provincial boundary disputes a century earlier. Individually, and as one of 20 of the original 24 monuments remaining within the present Cecil/Chester and Lancaster county boundary, it is also significant locally as one of the diminishing number of objects and structures visually identifiable with our colonial and Civil War heritage.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM: 18.40640.439720

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Cecil

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

Chester

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME/TITLE Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason-Dixon Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE 4/8/80 (site surveyed by Jean Ewing)

STREET &amp; NUMBER 14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE 301/472-2128

CITY OR TOWN Phoenix

STATE Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

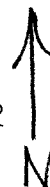
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

CE-1023

5763 1 SW  
(WAKEFIELD)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



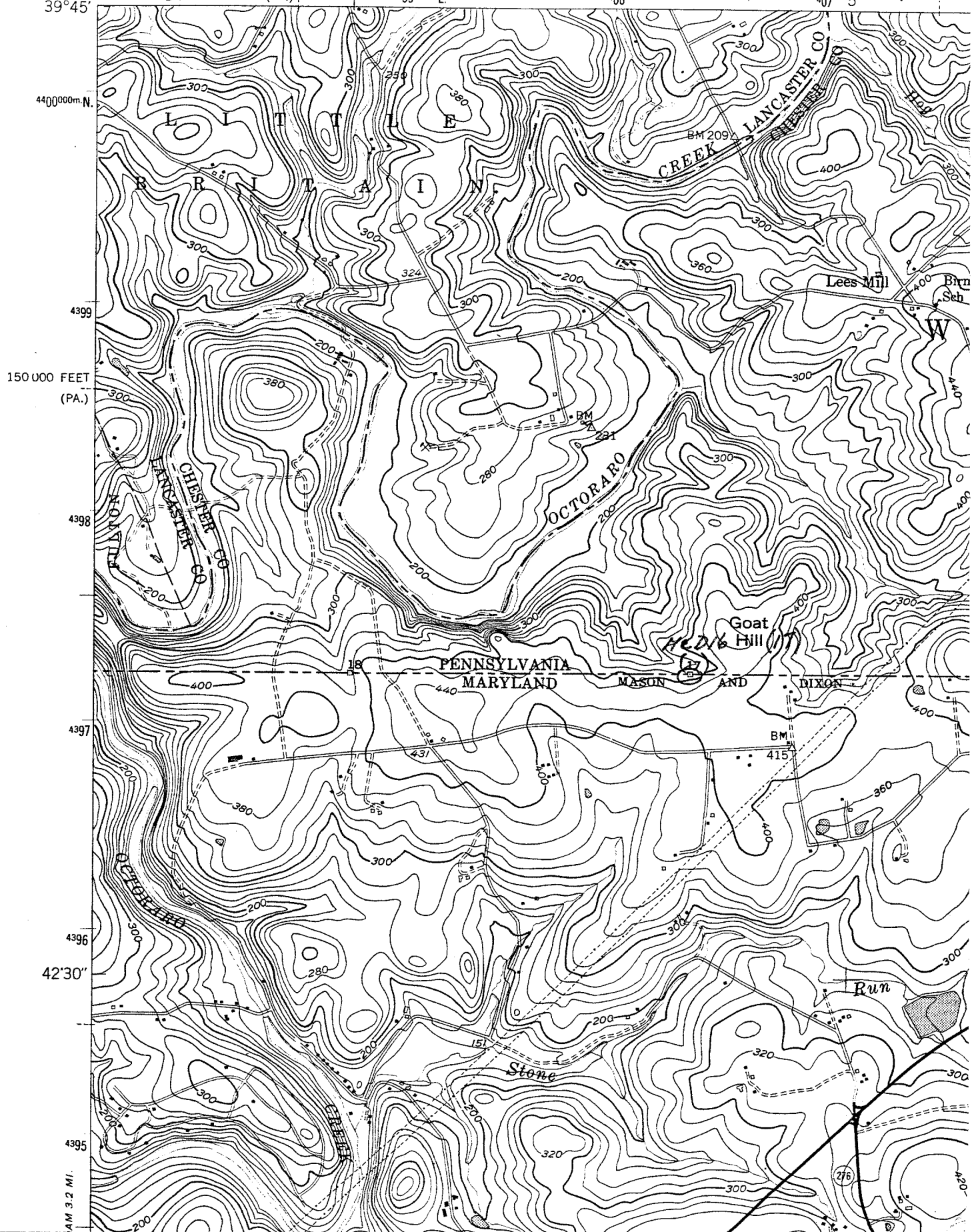
MASON EDIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 16 (17)

RISING-SUN QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1953 PHOTO REV. 1970  
SCALE 1" = 2000'

76°07'30"  
39°45'

2 460 000 FEET (PA.)

405000m E



4400000m N.

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

42°30"

AM 3.2 MI.



Mason & Dixon west line: marker #16 (17)

Stone partly submerged in silt

SW corner

PHOTO: JEAN  
1-1-1980 - June 80 - (COPY NEG)





CE-1023

Mason & Dixon west line marker<sup>†</sup> (16 (17))

NE corner

Corners chipped, face badly reworked

PHOTO: JEAN  
1 Evening

June '80

(Aug 25)